



2/1/06

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Norio MINAMITANI et al. : Docket No.00761/99/2075  
Serial No. 09/292,386 : Group Art Unit 3741  
Filed April 25, 1999 : Examiner A. Falik  
LOOM RESTARTING METHOD

**"SECOND REQUEST"**

**PETITION TO WITHDRAW  
HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT**

**RECEIVED**

**AUG 08 2006**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

It is hereby petitioned that the holding of abandonment in the above-identified application be withdrawn. On July 21, 2000 a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment was filed with the PTO (see enclosed copy of "date-stamped" postcard). However, as of this date, the PTO has not issued a decision on the request.

The facts necessitating this petition (second submission) are as follows:

1. On December 9, 1999 Group Art Unit 3741 issued a Non-Final Office Action in the above application, setting a three month shortened statutory period for response;
2. On March 9, 2000, i.e, within the shortened statutory period for response, Applicants filed a response to the Office Action of December 9, 1999;

3. In support of the fact of filing such March 9, 2000 response, enclosed is a copy of the facsimile transmission report indicating that the amendment was successfully transmitted, and a copy of the amendment, which included a "certification of facsimile transmission" as filed on March 9, 2000; and

4. On July 18, 2000 Group Art 3741 issued a form PTO-1432 "Notice of Abandonment" alleging that the above-identified application is abandoned since "no response has been received" to the Office Action of December 9, 1999.

As is apparent from the above, the holding of abandonment of this application is incorrect. Thus, there is no abandonment in fact in this application, since a response to the December 9, 1999 Office Action was timely filed.

In view of the above, it is requested that the holding of abandonment be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

Norio MINAMITANI et al.

By: 

Michael S. Huppert  
Registration No. 40,268  
Attorney for Applicants

MSH/kjf  
Washington, D.C.  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
August 1, 2006

[99-0436A]

ATTY DOCKET #: 00761/99/2075

Due Date: N/A

OUR REF: 99\_0436A/MSH/00761

Applicant: Norio MINAMITANI et al.

Serial No.: 09/292,386 Filing Date: April 25, 1999

Title: LOOM RESTARTING METHOD

Receipt of the following papers is acknowledged:

PETITION TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT (2 pages)  
COPIES OF (filed March 9, 2000):

Facsimile Transmission Report  
Amendment

Letter Re Proposed Drawing Amendments w/Figs. 1-3  
\*\*\*

Hand Carry to:

Examiner A. Falik - Group Art Unit 3741

Reception Area - Crystal Park 1 - 507

(703) 308-0861

Date: July 21, 2000

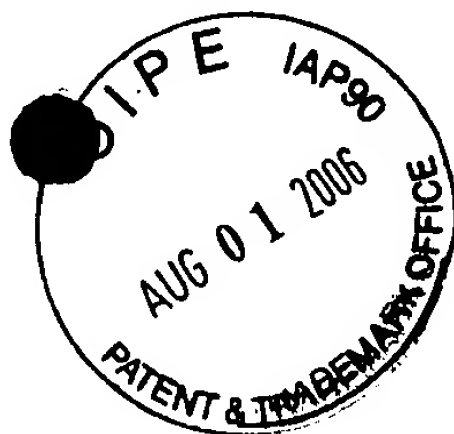
Attorney: MSH/kjf

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : HAND-CARRY  
Norio MINAMITANI et al. : Docket No.00761/99/2075  
Serial No. 09/292,386 : Group Art Unit 3741  
Filed April 25, 1999 : Examiner A. Falik  
LOOM RESTARTING METHOD

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**PETITION TO WITHDRAW  
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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The facts necessitating this petition are as follows:

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Respectfully submitted,

Norio MINAMITANI et al.

By: Michael S. Huppert  
Michael S. Huppert  
Registration No. 40,268  
Attorney for Applicants

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Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
July 21, 2000

[99-0436A]

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\* \* \* COMMUNICATION RESULT REPORT ( MAR. 9. 2000 8:01PM ) \* \* \*

TTI WENDEROTH LIND &amp; PONACK



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MEMORY TX		17033087764	OK	19/19

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E-2) BUSY  
 E-4) NO FACSIMILE CONNECTION

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## CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

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Michael S. Huppert  
 name of person signing certification

Michael S. Huppert  
 Signature

March 9, 2000  
 Date

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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
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 FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. 23-0975

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

:

Norio MINAMITANI et al.

:

Docket No. 00761/99/2075



"Official"

2/1/06

CP  
5/30/07  
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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Michael S. Huppert  
name of person signing certification

Michael Huppert  
Signature

March 9, 2000  
Date

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Norio MINAMITANI et al. : Docket No. 00761/99/2075  
Serial No. 09/292,386 : Group Art Unit  
Filed April 25, 1999 : Examiner A. Falik  
LOOM RESTARTING METHOD

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 9, 1999, please  
amend the above-referenced U.S. patent application as follows:

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In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1: Line 4, change "Field of the Invention" to --1. Field of the Invention--.

Line 8, change "Description of the Related Art" to --2. Description of the Related Art--.

Page 2: Line 19, change "need" to --needs--.

Page 3: Line 5, insert --"-- after "picking".

Line 6, insert --a-- before "means".

Page 12: Line 4, insert --the-- before "loom".

Line 13, insert --be-- before "prevented".

Page 13: Line 28, change "extracts" to --extract--.



In the Claims:

Kindly amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) A loom restarting method comprising [the steps of]:

providing a loom stopping command upon the occurrence of a loom stopping cause entailing faulty picking in a loom;

withholding the loom from a picking operation during a braking period to stop the loom in a weaving cycle subsequent to a weaving cycle in which faulty picking occurred;

B<sup>1</sup> reversing the loom to the weaving cycle in which faulty picking occurred;

removing a weft yarn picked by faulty picking; and

restarting the loom for a normal weaving operation, [;]

wherein a main shaft included in the loom is positioned, after removing the weft yarn picked by faulty picking, at an angular position at which a picking operation is possible in the weaving cycle where a normal weaving operation is performed in which the weft yarn picked by faulty picking was removed and the loom is reversed to an angular position at which a reed included in the loom is not in contact with a weft yarn inserted in the cloth fell of a fabric on the loom, and then the loom is restarted to perform the picking operation in the weaving cycle in which the weft yarn picked by faulty picking was removed.

COPY

2. (Amended) A loom restarting method comprising [the steps of]:

providing a loom stopping command upon the occurrence of a loom stopping cause other than faulty picking in a loom;

withholding the loom from a picking operation during a braking period to stop the loom for an initial stop in a weaving cycle subsequent to a weaving cycle in which the loom stopping cause occurred;

removing the loom stopping cause; and

restarting the loom for a normal weaving operation, [;]

wherein the main shaft of the loom is positioned at an angular position at which a picking operation is possible in the weaving cycle where a normal weaving operation is performed in which the loom was stopped for the initial stop and the loom is reversed to an angular position at which a reed included in the loom is not in contact with a weft yarn inserted in the cloth fell of a fabric on the loom, and then the loom is restarted to perform the picking operation corresponding to the initial stop in the weaving cycle.

3. (amended) A loom restarting method comprising [the steps of]:

providing a loom stopping command upon the occurrence of a loom stopping cause in a loom;

withholding the loom from a picking operation during a braking period to stop the loom for an initial stop in a weaving cycle subsequent to a weaving cycle in which the loom stopping cause occurred;

B1 removing the loom stopping cause; and

restarting the loom for a normal weaving operation, [;]

wherein a decision is made as to whether or not the loom stopping cause entailed faulty picking before the loom is stopped for the initial stop, and [;]

the loom is reversed to a weaving cycle in which faulty picking occurred, a weft yarn picked by faulty picking is removed, and a main shaft included in the loom is positioned at an angular position at which a picking operation is possible in the weaving cycle where a normal weaving operation is performed in which faulty picking occurred and the loom is reversed to an angular position at which a reed included in the loom is not in contact with a weft yarn inserted in the cloth fell of a fabric on the loom, and then the loom is restarted if the loom stopping cause entails faulty picking to perform the picking operation in the weaving cycle in which faulty picking occurred, [;] or

the loom stopping cause is removed, the main shaft of the loom is positioned at an angular position at which a picking operation is possible in the weaving cycle where a normal weaving operation is performed in which the loom is stopped for the initial stop and the loom is reversed to an angular position at which the reed of the loom is not in contact with a weft yarn inserted in the cloth fell of the fabric on the loom, and then the loom is restarted if the loom stopping cause does not entail faulty picking to perform the picking operation corresponding to the initial stop in the weaving cycle.

B | 4. (Amended) A loom restarting method comprising [the steps of]:

providing a loom stopping command upon the occurrence of a loom stopping cause in a loom;

withholding the loom from a picking operation during a braking period to stop the loom for an initial stop in a weaving cycle subsequent to a weaving cycle in which the loom stopping cause occurred;

removing the loom stopping cause; and

restarting the loom for a normal weaving operation, [;]

wherein a decision is made as to whether or not the loom stopping cause entails faulty picking before the loom is stopped for the initial stop; and

B1 the loom is restarted either after reversing the loom to a weaving cycle in which faulty picking occurred, removing a weft yarn picked by faulty picking, and carrying out a one-shot picking operation, or after removing the weft yarn picked by faulty picking, and positioning a main shaft included in the loom at an angular position at which a picking operation is possible in the weaving cycle where a normal weaving operation is performed in which faulty picking occurred and the loom is reversed to an angular position at which the reed of the loom is not in contact with a weft yarn inserted in the cloth fell of a fabric on the loom, depending on weaving conditions if the loom stopping cause entails faulty picking to perform the picking operation in the weaving cycle in which faulty picking occurred, [;] or

the loom is restarted after removing the loom stopping cause, and positioning the main shaft of the loom at an angular position at which a picking operation is possible in the weaving cycle where a normal weaving operation is performed in which the loom was stopped for the initial stop and the loom is reversed to an angular position at which the reed of the loom is not in contact with a weft yarn inserted in the cloth fell of the fabric on the loom if the loom stopping cause does not entail faulty picking to perform the picking operation corresponding to the initial stop in the weaving cycle.

COPY

## R E M A R K S

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 9, 1999. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Initially, on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that drawing Figs. 1-3 should be designated by a legend such as "PRIOR ART". Accordingly, proposed drawing corrections are submitted herewith, in which Figs. 1-3 are amended to include the legend "PRIOR ART" as suggested by the Examiner.

Next, to facilitate the Examiner's reconsideration of the application, the specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised in order to make a number of minor clarifying and other editorial amendments.

\* \* \* \* \*

Next, on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 4-281047. It is submitted that the present invention, as embodied by amended claims 1-4, now clearly patentably distinguishes over JP 4-281047 for the following reasons.

In the present invention, a number of false beating-up operations can be reduced in a process occurring between the stop of the loom and the restart of the same, and several picked weft yarns adjacent to the cloth fell of the fabric will scarcely be dislocated in the direction of the thickness of the fabric. Thus,

the defect described as "wavy set mark" is prevented and the quality of the fabric is improved.

As indicated, false picking operations while the weaving operation is stopped cause the defect called "wavy set mark". It is known that reverse operation of the loom at a low speed while the weaving operation is stopped also causes the defect called "wavy set mark". When a loom is restarted by the one-shot picking method, a first weft yarn picked after the restart of the loom cannot properly be beaten up. However, when a loom is restarted by the one-shot picking method, the number of false picking operations is less by two than that of the false picking operations that are necessary when the loom is restarted by the conventional loom restarting method and one reversing operation can be omitted. These effects of the one-shot picking method prevent the formation of the defect called "wavy set mark". Therefore, it is preferable to restart the loom by the one-shot picking method when the loom is operating under weaving conditions not requiring heavy beating-up, such as those for weaving a course fabric. Accordingly, the formation of the defect called "wavy set mark" can further effectively be prevented if the one-shot picking method or the sixty degree-starting method is used selectively depending on weaving conditions.

In JP 4-281047 (hereinafter "JP '047") it is disclosed that a weft is picked instead of a defective weft that is removed by a

picking operation (one-shot picking operation) while a loom is stopped, and then the loom is restarted. At this time, the angular position of the loom where the loom is restarted is set to a crank angle that is positioned rearwardly of a crank angle through which a picking operation is performed at the normal weaving operation.

The occurs because, if the loom is restarted before the rotation angle of a loom where the picking operation is performed at the normal weaving operation, picking is performed again although one-shot-picking operation has already been performed. If the drawback is removed, one weaving cycle, when the loom is restarted, is controlled in a manner which is different from the normal weaving operation, leading to a rather complex control. However, this is not what is suggested in the disclosure of JP '047.

As a result, JP '047 forms "a light filling bar" which is caused by an insufficient beating-up force. Further, JP '047 requires an additional structure to perform the picking operation while the loom is stopped.

In the present invention, as defined in claim 1, the picking at the weaving cycle where the warp is removed, is performed by the weaving operation at the normal weaving operation, which is restarted after the loom is started. Accordingly, a "light filling bar" is not formed, nor is a new specific structure required to perform the picking operation while the loom is stopped.



Further, in the present invention, a false beating-up operation is prevented when the loom is reversed to a position where the loom is restarted, thereby preventing the formation of a "wavy set mark".

Also, JP '047 discloses that the loom is required to be reversed at least one resolution for restarting the loom when a one-shot picking operation is not performed, resulting in the formation of false beating-up operation to form "a light filling bar". Accordingly, in the prior art there exists merely the idea that the loom is restarted after the loom is reversed to the position where the false beating-up operation occurs when a one-shot picking operation is not performed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present invention, as defined in amended claim 1, is now clearly allowable over the disclosure of JP '047.

The present invention, as defined in claim 1, further distinguishes over JP '047, because the picking in the weaving cycle in which the weft yarn picked by faulty picking was removed is not performed while the loom is stopped, but is performed in the weaving operation after the loom is restarted. Further, the present invention is able to avoid the problem which occurs when a one-shot picking operation, as in JP '047, is performed.

Further, with respect to claim 2, the present invention is completely different from JP '047 with respect to the loom stopping cause. Accordingly, the present invention and JP '047 differ from each other with regard to the cycle when performing a picking operation upon completion of the loom stopping and restarting of the loom.

In JP '047, a weft is inserted instead of the removed defective weft, and the picking is performed in a cycle (Cycle B) when the defective weft is removed while the loom is stopped. The restarting of the loom is also performed in Cycle B.

In contrast, in the present invention as defined in amended claim 2, the picking operation is performed in a Cycle (Cycle C: initial stop weaving cycle) withholding a picking operation while the loom is stopped, and the picking operation is performed after the loom is in Cycle C. Even if the teachings of JP '047 are applied to a loom stopping cause other than faulting picking, the reversing amount of a loom is reduced and the operation performed in Cycle B is merely performed in Cycle C. Accordingly, the same problems as discussed above in connection with claim 1 will also occur. On the other hand, the present invention, as recited in claim 2, has the effect that there does not occur "a light filling bar" at the beginning of starting the loom, or the "wavy set mark", which is caused by a false beating-up operation. Also, a specific structure is not needed to perform the picking operation while the

loom is stopped. These advantages of the present invention clearly cannot be achieved with the method of operation disclosed in JP '047.

Further, the present invention as defined in claim 2, is applied to case in which the loom stopping cause is something other than faulty picking, but not to the situation in which the loom stopping cause entails faulty picking as is the case in JP '047. Further, according to JP '047, the picking operation is performed while the loom is stopped at the intended cycle, however, in the present invention the picking operation is performed after the loom is restarted, and thus, the method of operation disclosed in JP '047 and that of the present invention, as claimed in claim 2, are significantly different.

Further, with respect to claims 3 and 4, the present invention distinguishes over JP '047 for the reasons advanced above with respect to claims 1 and 2, and additionally for the following reasons.

In the operation of the loom defined in claims 3 and 4, after the initial stop of the loom, the operation is completely different from that recited in claims 1 and 2 depending on the loom stopping cause. Further, the operation of the loom after defective weft removal is completely different from each other between a case where one-shot picking is performed and a case where one-shot picking is not performed. Accordingly, each operation in JP '047

that can be switched depending on the loom stopping cause or weaving condition is completely different from that recited in claims 3 and 4 of the present invention, and further, the idea of utilizing different operations is clearly not disclosed in JP '047. Accordingly, since JP '047 only discloses a one-shot picking operation, the limitations of claims 3 and 4 are clearly not met by this reference.

Further, as discussed above, in claims 3 and 4 of the present invention, determining the loom stopping cause (faulty picking operation or not) and the switching of the operation of the loom after the initial stop depending on the loom stopping cause are not disclosed in JP '047.

Further, JP '047 clearly does not disclose the switching of operations of the loom after the defective weft removal depending on the weaving condition even if a faulty picking operation occurs. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 1-4, as amended, are now clearly allowable over the prior art of record, including JP '047.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Norio MINAMITANI et al.

By: Michael S. Huppert  
Michael S. Huppert  
Registration No. 40,268  
Attorney for Applicants

MSH/kjf  
Washington, D.C.  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
March 9, 2000



"Official"

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Michael S. Huppert  
name of person signing certification

Michael Huppert  
Signature

March 9, 2000  
Date

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Norio MINAMITANI et al. : Docket No. 00761/99/2075  
Serial No. 09/292,386 : Group Art Unit  
Filed April 25, 1999 : Examiner A. Falik  
LOOM RESTARTING METHOD

LETTER RE PROPOSED DRAWING AMENDMENTS

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AUG 08 2006

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a photocopy of Figs. 1-3 marked in red to indicate proposed drawing amendments thereto.

The Examiner is requested to approve such proposed drawing amendments, and after allowance of this application, formal drawings incorporating such amendments will be filed.

Respectfully submitted,

Norio MINAMITANI et al.

By:

Michael Huppert

Michael S. Huppert  
Registration No. 40,268  
Attorney for Applicants

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Washington, D.C.  
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March 9 2000

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PROPOS D DRAWING CORRECTION

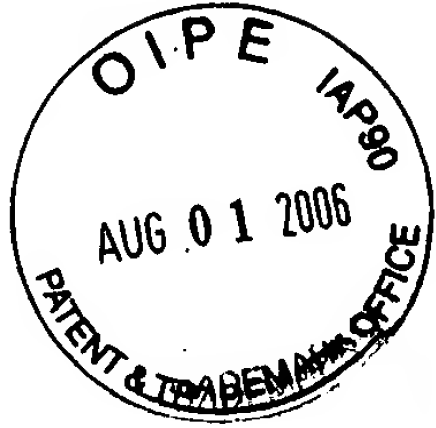
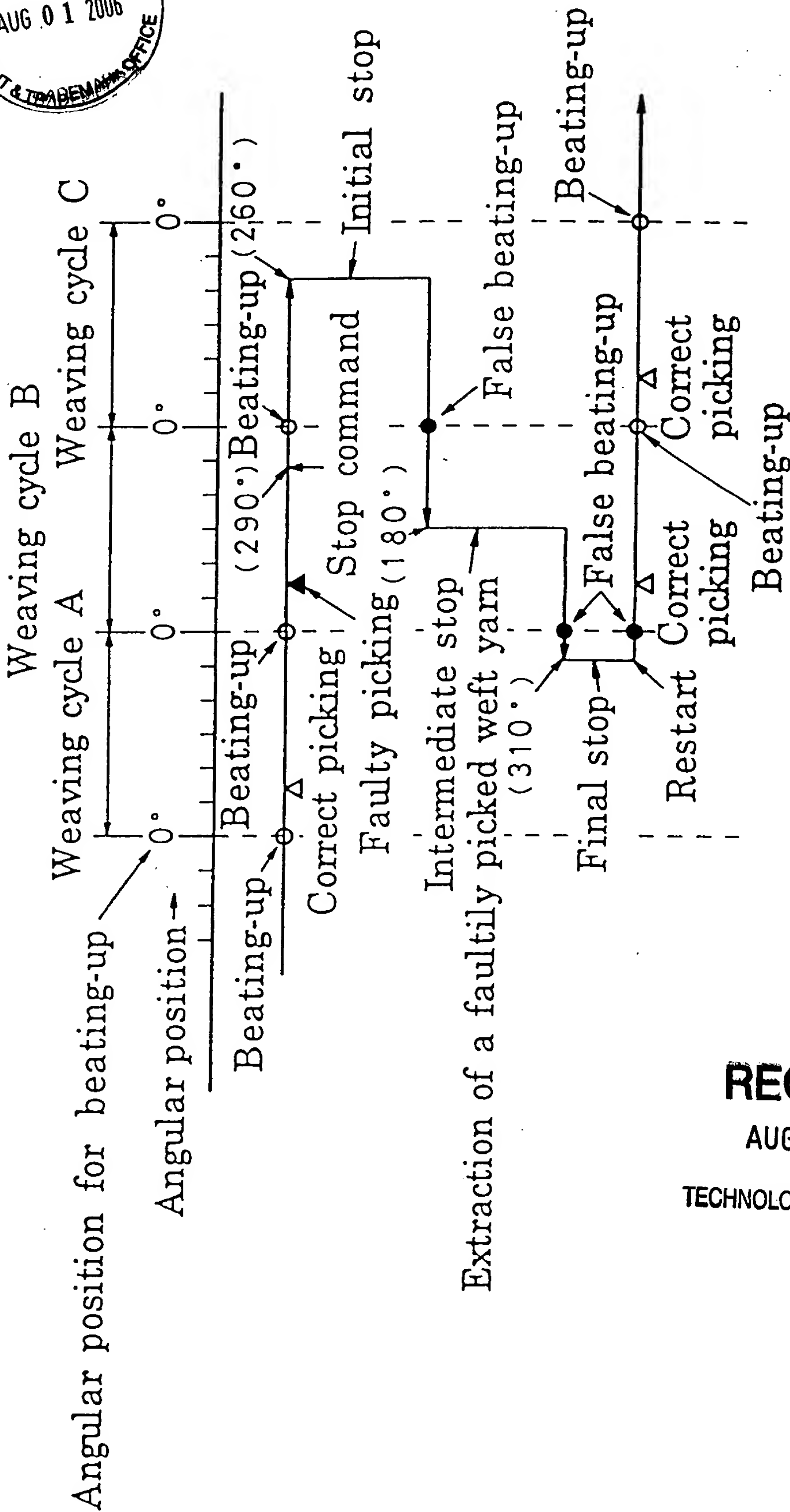


FIG.1 (PRIOR ART)

Loom stopping cause entailing faulty picking



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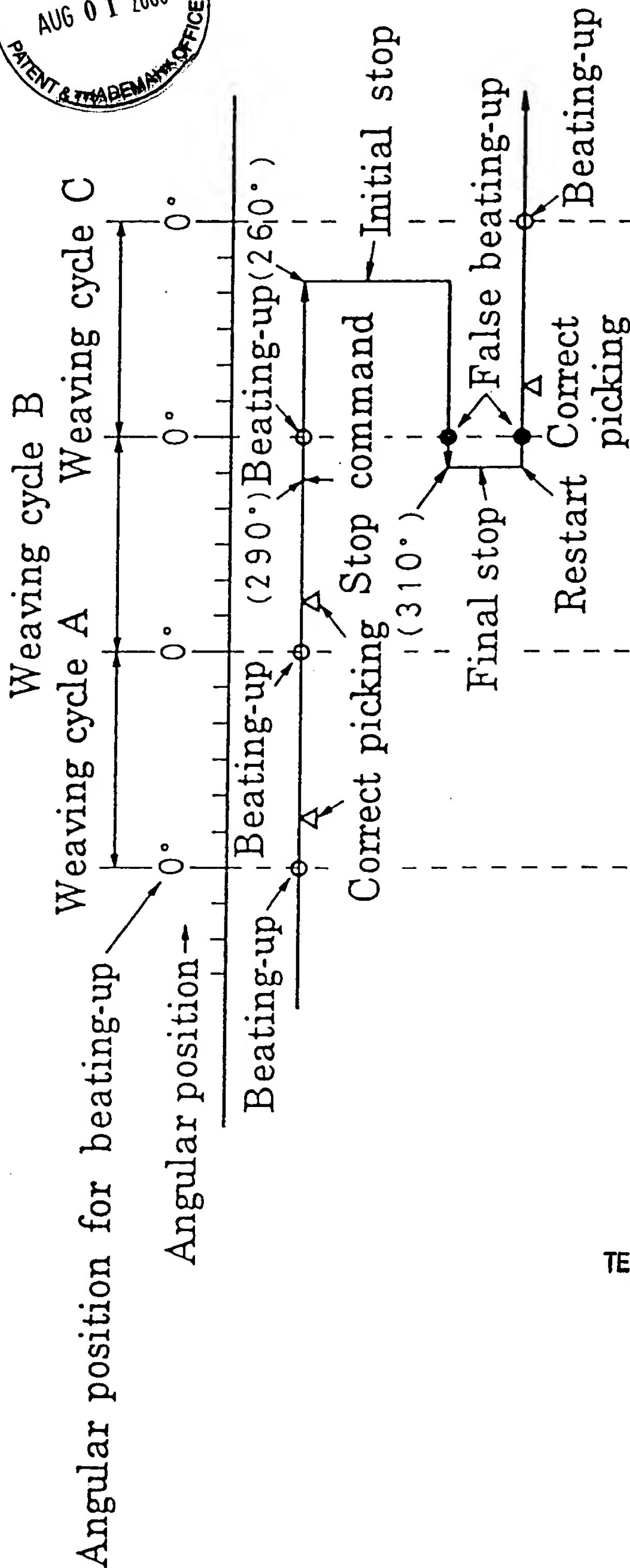
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FIG.2 (PRIOR ART)

Loom stopping cause other than faulty picking



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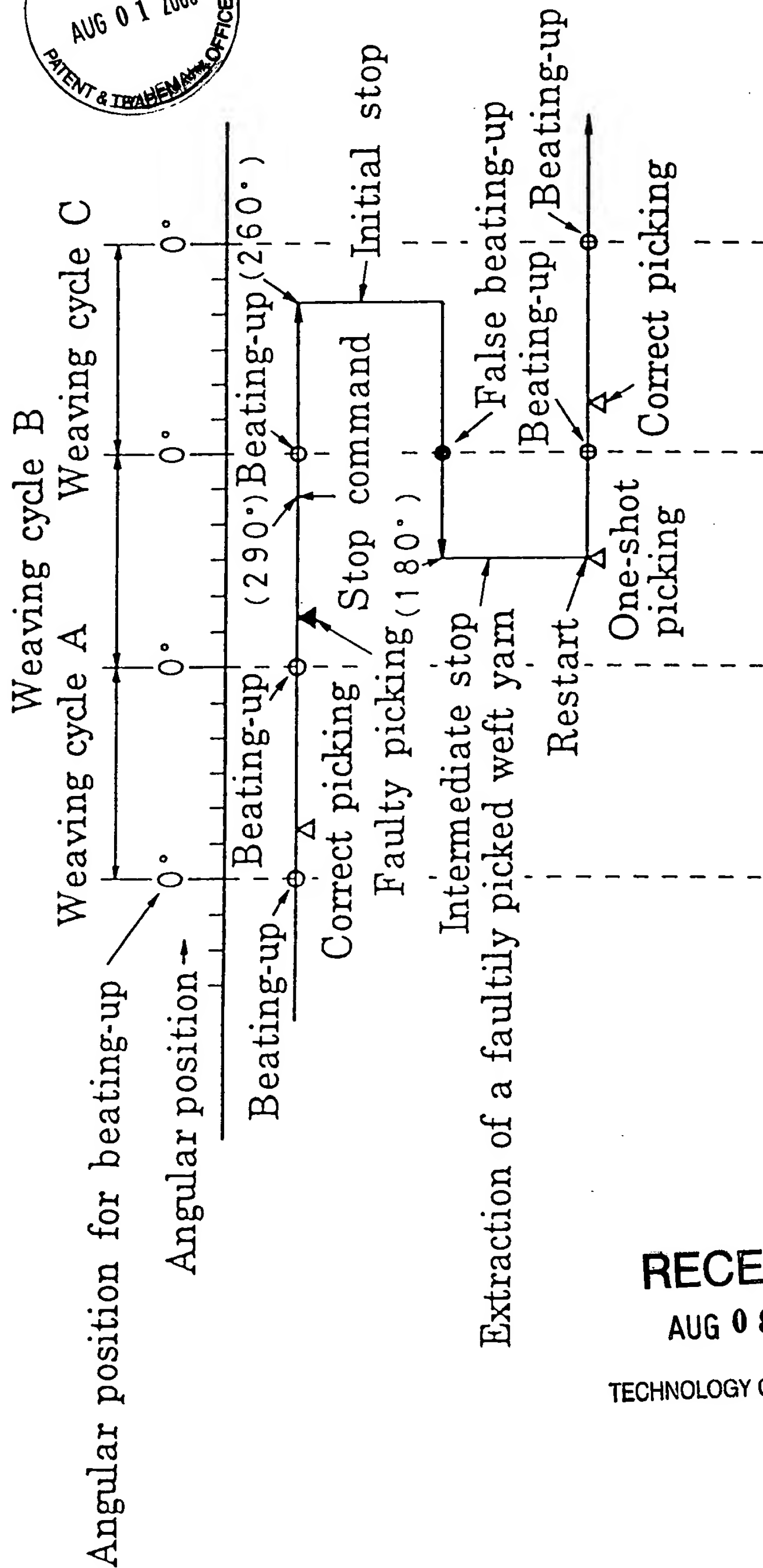
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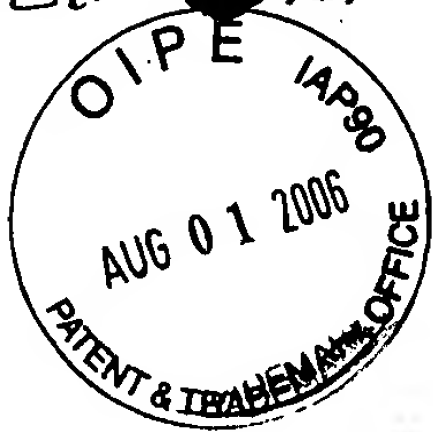


FIG.3 (PRIOR ART)

Faulty picking (One-shot-starting method)



PROPOSED DRAWING CORRECTION



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